

NORTH PLAINFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT
2022 ANNUAL REPORT



It is truly an honor and privilege to serve as Chief of Police for North Plainfield. Our Borough is unique with its diverse population and the police department comprises of some of the finest people in law enforcement. My goals and objectives are quite simple; I want to make North Plainfield the safest place to live, work, play and visit. We will engage the community as full partners to accomplish this task. Thank you, Mayor Lawrence La Ronde, for having the confidence and trust in me to do this job and I pledge to do my best in serving the residents of North Plainfield, its government, and the police department.

Prepared For:
Mayor Lawrence La Ronde
Date: February 1, 2023
Prepared By:
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I. MISSION STATEMENT:

My top priority is to build mutual respect, and to provide equal opportunity policing for everyone that lives, works, or passes through the Borough of North Plainfield. By this I mean, Law Enforcement Services that will be fair, honest, and without bias.

The police department's trustworthiness, comes from being a Welcoming and Inclusive Community. It is imperative that our residents and visitors feel safe, respected, and comfortable in being themselves, while also being able to express all aspects of their identities. We are a place where each person shares a mutual sense of belonging with our other members. Inclusion, as well as the appreciation of, and the valuing of human differences, creates an atmosphere that promotes a sense of belonging, so that everyone feels respected and valued for their uniqueness. It is home. A Proud Community.

The North Plainfield Police Department, wants to instill a belief in our community policing philosophy, and establish a confidence that "we as police officers, care more about your well-being than your immigration status, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation." In many communities across New Jersey, the relationship between members of the community and law enforcement is strained. Our mission as police officers is to protect life, property, and to solve crimes without bias. That goal would be virtually impossible to do effectively, if witnesses or victims had some reluctance to come forward. We have no concern about a person's immigration status, and we do not ask that question of a victim or witness. It is imperative that law enforcement maintain the trust and support of the people they serve.

A high priority is placed on the initial screening and training of all our employees, and a continuing in-service training program is designed to keep us current with modern law enforcement practices. Our goal is to combine high personal ethics, quality training, and perseverance, to provide the best possible policing to all citizens, as well as to the people of North Plainfield.

II. ADMINISTRATION:

A. Staffing: The Police Department is operating below its authorized strength of 48 sworn officers. Staffing and deficiencies:

1. Two (2) Police Officers
2. One (1) Class III Officer

B. Injured Officers During the Calendar Year for 2022

1. A Patrol Officer tested positive for Covid-19 on January 2, 2022. He missed four (4) days of patrol work, returning to full duty on January 13, 2022.
2. A Parking Enforcement Officer tested positive for Covid-19 on January 3, 2022. She missed a total of seven (7) days of work, returning on January 12, 2022.

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3. A Patrolman reported a back injury after opening a door on January 11, 2022. He missed four (4) days of patrol work, returning to full duty on January 18, 2022.
4. A Patrolman injured his back while assisting the Parking Authority on January 12, 2022. He missed three (3) days of patrol work, returning to full duty on January 17, 2022.
5. A Dispatcher tested positive for Covid-19 on January 14, 2022. She missed a total of nine (9) days of work, returning on January 27, 2022.
6. A Parking Enforcement Officer was injured on duty on February 2, 2022. She missed eight (8) days of work, returning on February 14, 2022.
7. A Sergeant had a surgical procedure on February 5, 2022. He missed eleven (11) days of work, returning to full duty on February 22, 2022.
8. A Patrolman sustained a hand injury on March 11, 2022 during a training session. He missed a total of eighty-five (85) days of patrol type work. He was cleared for full duty on August 28, 2022.
9. A Patrolman sustained a minor injury on April 13, 2022 while affecting an arrest.
10. A SLEO III Officer returned to full duty on May 2, 2022 after being out of work for approximately one (1) year due to an illness.
11. A Sergeant returned to full duty on May 12, 2022 after being out of work for approximately one (1) year due to an illness.
12. A Patrolwoman transitioned to light duty on June 2, 2022 and went out on maternity leave on October 7, 2022. She remained on maternity leave the rest of the year.
13. A Patrolman tested positive for Covid-19 on July 4, 2022, returning to work on July 12, 2022.
14. A Patrolman tested positive for Covid-19 on July 8, 2022, returning to work on July 13, 2022.
15. A Sergeant tested positive for Covid-19 on July 13, 2022, returning to work on August 5, 2022.
16. A Sergeant tested positive for Covid-19 on July 15, 2022, returning to work on July 20, 2022.
17. A Sergeant had a non-work-related surgery on July 27, 2022. He returned to light duty status on September 14, 2022. He remained on light duty for the rest of the year.
18. A Patrolman had a non-work-related surgery on October 3, 2022. He remained out of work for the rest of the year.
19. A Detective was involved in a motor vehicle accident on November 9, 2022. He has missed thirty-eight (38) days of work thus far.

C. Promotions, New Hires and Retirements

1. Effective February 22, 2022, Rodrigo Perez-Torres was hired as a Probationary Police Officer.

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2. Effective March 31, 2022, Lt. Edward Sinker retired.
3. Effective April 14, 2022, Sergeant William Speck was promoted to Probationary Lieutenant.
4. Effective April 14, 2022, Detective Daniel Conceicao was promoted to Probationary Sergeant.
5. Effective April 14, 2022, Patrolman Charles Halsted was promoted to Detective.
6. Effective May 2, 2022, Tyler Rayner was hired as a Probationary Patrolman.
7. Effective July 10, 2022, Dispatcher Kimberly Vasquez resigned.
8. Effective July 26, 2022, SLEO III Darrin Marasco resigned.
9. Effective August 3, 2022, Steffany Marroquin transferred from Parking Enforcement to Dispatch.
10. Effective August 5, 2022, SLEO III Jason Hamilton resigned.
11. Effective August 6, 2022, Richard Padilla was hired as a part-time Parking Enforcement Officer.
12. Effective August 22, 2022, Lesly Cano was hired as a part-time Parking Enforcement Officer.
13. Dispatcher Steffany Marroquin was hired as a Probationary Police Officer on November 21, 2022. She will be attending the Police Academy in January.
14. Effective December 28, 2022, Richard Lopez was hired as a full-time Police Dispatcher.

III. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION:

A. Case Log Report:

1. A comparison of general adult investigations for the past three years:

	2020	2021	2022
Investigated	1055	1060	930
Active	43	25	27
Suspended	321	425	426
Closed	676	610	424
Forwarded to SCPO	112	63	42

2. A comparison of juvenile investigations for the past three years:

	2020	2021	2022
Investigated	171	152	190
Active	0	3	3
Suspended	5	6	15
Closed	165	143	168
Forwarded: other agencies	107	57	45

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IV. COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- A. During 2022, community outreach programs remained in place.
- B. The Youth Police Academy was held in July at the West End School and once again was a great success with 25 cadets graduating. Several recruits returned for a second time. The STEP program was also held over the summer. Both D/Sgt. Domizi and Det. DeJesus participated in the program.
- C. National Night Out was a great success with hundreds of borough residents in attendance. D/Sgt. Domizi coordinates the event and all of the vendors and participants.
- D. The Community Policing Unit oversees the Good Morning Program for the Borough's senior citizens. Every morning any senior citizen in the program receives a telephone call from a police officer to see if they are alright. If the senior citizen does not answer, a welfare check is conducted. The community policing unit also oversees the residential and business false alarms. Follow up investigations are conducted and warnings and summons are issued when appropriate. D/Sgt. Domizi issued 204 first time alarm notifications and 110 General Alarm notifications.
- E. Detective Domizi remains a member of the Municipal Alliance committee and he is also the liaison to the Resource Center of Somerset County which provides assistance to victims of domestic violence. Both D/Sgt. Domizi and Lt. Ciempola attended the North Plainfield Community Forum Meetings. Lt. Ciempola also attended meetings of the Juvenile Justice Commission's "Race, Equity and Inclusion" sub-committee bi-monthly.
- F. Operation Watchdog, which allows all home owners and business owners to register their surveillance systems with the department, remains in place. Residents continue to participate in the program.
- G. The Special Law Enforcement Officer III is in operation, providing specially trained retired police officers for security in our schools. At this time, two SLEO III officers are employed by the Borough and are under the supervision of Det/Sgt Albert Domizi.

V. SOMERSET COUNTY GUNS AND GANG TASK FORCE:

- A. In 2022, Officer Justin Pelissier was assigned to the Organized Crime and Narcotics Task Force (OCNTF). He conducted numerous investigations with the Task Force including several in North Plainfield that culminated in arrests in the Borough.

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VI. INTERNAL AFFAIRS:

- A. During 2022, the police department logged 7 Internal Affairs complaints. Lt. Ciempola investigated 5, Lt. Sinker investigated 1, and Lt. Speck investigated 1. See our website for Major Discipline as per the Attorney Generals Directives.

Investigation #	Classification	Disposition	Corrective Action
22-01	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
22-02	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
22-03	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)
22-04	Improper Arrest	Exonerated	N/A
22-05	Demeanor	Exonerated	N/A
22-06	Harassment	Exonerated	N/A
22-07	Rules Violation	Sustained	Sanction (R&R)

VII. PATROL DIVISION:

- A. The Patrol Division had 12 marked patrol cars in service and logged the following miles of patrol for the last three years.

	2020	2021	2022
Patrol Miles	186,673	179,771	201,995

We have rebounded from the drop caused by Covid-19. I firmly believe a conspicuous Patrol operation communicates a sense of protection to our citizens, and acts as a deterrent to criminal or mischievous activity.

- B. Traffic summonses issued: A comparison of the last three years:

Type of summonses	2020	2021	2022
Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)	26	35	41
Moving Hazardous Violation	471	578	794
Moving Non-Hazardous Violation	757	1,419	2,059
Borough Ordinance Violation	29	91	139
Parking Violation	1,019	2,603	1,659
Radar	232	470	381
Written Warnings	1,790	3,376	3,376
Totals	4,324	9,545	10,787
Refusal Breath Test Included in (DWI above)	3	6	10
Summons included in above totals	2,533	6,169	7,411

- C. Radar: Officers spent 2,133 hours on those posts

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Albert Street	North Drive
Brook Avenue	Norwood Avenue
Clinton Avenue	Oneida Avenue
Columbia Avenue	Parkview Avenue
Craig Place	Richard Way
Crosson Place	Rock Avenue
Farragut Road	Rockview Avenue
Geraud Avenue	Route 22 East
Greenbrook Road	Route 22 West
Grove Street	Somerset Street
Jefferson Avenue	Sycamore Avenue
Leland Avenue	Warfield Road
Linden Avenue	Washington Avenue
Maple Avenue	Watchung Avenue
Mountain Avenue	West End Avenue
Myrtle Avenue	Westervelt Avenue
Netherwood Avenue	Wilson Avenue

D. Parking Enforcement Report

Year end totals:

	2020	2021	2022
Total Summons Issued	3,868	4,591	6,016

Revenue:

	2020	2021	2022
Meters	92,664.27	105,636.01	120,367.49
Permits	11,330.00	16,930.00	16,900.00
Total	103,994.27	122,566.01	137,264.49

The meters were bagged from 12/14/22-1/2/23 for the holiday season (only Title 39 was enforced during this period).

VIII. RECORDS DIVISION:

A. Fees collected: A comparison of the last three years:

	2020	2021	2022
Fees Collected	5,907.55	5,470.05	5,378.99
Calls for Service/Responses	35,391	38,533	44,042
Discovery Requests	321	427	521
Report Requests	2,325	1,883	798

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Pieces of Evidence/Property	559	465	401
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B. Yearly Arrest Analysis, a comparison of the last three years:

	2020		2021		2022	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile
Murder	0	0	0	0	3	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	1	0	1	0
Robbery	4	5	0	0	2	0
Aggravated Assault	1	0	7	0	9	1
Burglary	4	0	2	0	2	0
Larceny/Theft	23	2	18	2	12	4
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	2	0	0	0
Simple Assault	66	2	51	0	57	1
Arson	1	0	0	0	0	0
Forgery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fraud	2	0	2	0	2	0
Embezzlement	0	0	1	0	1	0
Stolen Property	1	0	0	0	4	0
Criminal Mischief	4	0	6	0	2	0
Weapons	5	0	4	3	5	1
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	0	1	1	0	0	0
Violation of Drug Laws	51	8	13	2	8	0
Gambling	0	0	0	0	0	0
Offenses Against Family & Children	0	0	2	0	1	0
Driving Under the Influence	24	0	34	0	37	0
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	16	1	6	1	10	0
Vagrancy	0	0	1	0	0	0
Curfew and Loitering Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0
All Other Offenses	81	1	25	3	31	1
Total UCR Arrests	283	20	173	11	187	8
COC other Arrests	98	5	61	3	92	2
Total Arrests	381	25	234	14	279	10

IX. UNIFORM CRIME REPORT

A. The following is a comparison of the Uniform Crime Offenses, Part I, for the past five years:

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Year	Crime Index Total	Violent Crime	Non Violent Crime	Crime Rate Per 1,000	Violent Crime Per 1,000	Non violent Crime Rate Per 1,000	VIOLENT CRIME				NONVIOLENT CRIME				Domestic Violence	Bias Incidents
							Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson		
2018	377	39	338	17.2	1.8	15.4	1	7	18	13	54	272	12	0	222	0
2019	329	48	281	15.0	2.3	12.8	1	11	26	10	36	234	11	0	233	0
2020	327	25	302	15.4	1.2	14.2	0	2	17	6	23	265	14	2	302	15
2021	361	68	293	15.8	3.0	12.8	2	4	43	19	22	236	35	2	264	9
2022	351	35	316	15.4	1.5	13.9	1	8	13	13	25	263	28	1	272	6
Up/Dn	-10	-33	23	0	-1	1	-1	4	-30	-6	3	27	-7	-1	8	-3
%	-2.8	-48.5	7.8	-2.8	-48.5	7.8	-50.0	100.0	-69.8	-31.6	13.6	11.4	-20.0	-50.0	3.0	-33.3

We saw a decrease in violent crime from the spike we has in 2021.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA			POLICE EMPLOYEE DATA			
Area in Square Miles	Density Per Square Mile	Character	Male Officers	Female Officers	Civilian	Total Police Employees
2.8	7,860.71	Urban/Sub	45	1	8	54
2.8	7,860.71	Urban/Sub	46	1	8	55
2.8	7,603.21	Urban/Sub	44	2	8	54
2.8	8,145.71	Urban/Sub	47	3	10	60
2.8	8,034.64	Urban/Sub	46	3	11	60
0	-111	Urban/Sub	-1	0	1	0
0.0	-1.4	Urban/Sub	-2.1	0.0	10.0	0.0

X. TRAFFIC SAFETY:

A. A comparison of vehicle crash information for the last three years:

	2020	2021	2022
Total	809	869	958
Summons Issued for crash	525	500	561
Refuse Breath Test	2	4	4
Driving While Intoxicated	16	22	19
Hazardous	329	311	366
Non-Hazardous	178	162	171
Alcohol Related	0	1	1

B. Breakdown of Reportable and Non-Reportable Crashes for the last three years:

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	2020	2021	2022
Rt 22-Reportable	269	298	320
Rt 22 Non-Reportable	12	6	4
Boro Streets- Reportable	394	425	481
Boro St Non-Reportable	9	10	4
Private Property-Reportable	116	119	136
Private Prop Non-Reportable	9	11	13
Total Reportable	779	842	937
Total Non-Reportable	30	27	21

C. Crash Injury Report for the last three years:

	2020	2021	2022
Reports W/Injuries	131	142	171
Persons Injured	173	189	234
Fatal	1	0	0

XI. TRAINING DIVISION:

The Department Training Sergeant is responsible for providing all State mandated training for the department. Additional duties include vehicle maintenance, securing, maintaining and copying the in-car video recordings, and updating the files needed to maintain our coveted Accreditation.

In 2021, the members of the Department were instructed in various police related topics which are divided into the following categories by the NJ Attorney General's Office:

- A. Mandatory Training- Firearms (General Order Review and Qualifications), Use of Force, Pursuit Driving, Domestic Violence, Eradicating Racial Profiling, Cell Block Use and Management, and Ethics, Firearms, Use of Force, Pursuit Driving, and Domestic Violence were two times during the training year.
- B. Mandatory In-Service Training Due to a Particular Assignment- Use of Force (Twice), Pursuit Driving (Twice), Right to Know, CLEAR Training (Mental Health), Dealing with the Mentally Disturbed (New hires), CJIS (New hires), Narcan, Domestic Violence (Twice), Bloodborne Pathogens Training, Heroin Opiate Training, OC Spray, Racial Profiling, Jail Cell Management, Handgun Qualification (Twice), Bias Crimes, ASP, CPR Certification, Active Shooter Training, PPE Fit Test, Ethics, Developmental Disabilities, Workplace Sexual Harassment, Tourniquet Training, HazMat Training, Rifle Qualification (Twice), Rifle Familiarization Fire (Twice), FTO Instructor Program, Supervisor Performance Evaluation Training, Dispatcher Responsibilities During Active Shooter, Ambush on Police, BWC Training (New hires), Community Policing, Department Confidentiality, EVOC Training, Law

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Enforcement Jujitsu/Defense Tactics/Handcuffing, Resiliency, Search & Seizure Update

- C. Voluntary In-Service Training- Handle with Care (New hires), MVR (New hires), Lojack Training (New hires), Patrol Rifle Assessment, SCPO Brian Stack Search & Seizure Update
- D. Department Off-Site Continuing Education Courses- Members of the Department, to enhance personal development and professionalism, were instructed in the following police related topics. These classes consisted of the following:
- Alcotest
 - Indicators of Extremism
 - Advanced Gang Awareness
 - Resiliency
 - High Risk MV Stop
 - Crisis Cops
 - Active Threat Active Shooter
 - Verbal Judo
 - Arson Training
 - Surviving a Changing Frontier
 - Interview/Interrogation
 - Drug Interdiction
 - Glock Armorer
 - Bicycle Crash Invest
 - NIBRS Training
 - Traffic Crash Reconstruction
 - DWI SFST
 - Forensic Tire Analysis
 - Child Seat
 - Special Victims
 - Operation Helping Hand
 - Radar Instructor
 - ICAT/ABLE
 - ASP Instructor
 - Gang Training
 - Mid-Level Narcotics
 - Child Safety Conference
 - Child Passenger Safety Seat Tech
 - Basic Internal Invest
 - CPR Instructor
 - LEAD Training
 - LIDAR
 - Active Threat on Campus

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- Conducting IA Invest
 - Fair Impartial Bias Training
 - Supervision Training
 - Courtroom Testimony
 - OPRA School
 - MOI Instructor
 - Computer Competency Excel
 - Report Writing
 - School Safety Violent Extremism
- E. Accreditation- Every standard was filled with department policy and 91% of the proofs needed for the first-year assessment.

Respectfully submitted,

William Parenti

William G. Parenti
Chief of Police